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PTO/SB/05 (05-03)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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# UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Attorney Docket No. 2646-000003

First Inventor David M. Allen

Title MULCH SHIELD

Express Mail Label No. EV 406 074 489 US

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b))

## APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

## ADDRESS TO:

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

1. ☒ Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)  
(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. ☒ Applicant claims small entity status.  
See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. ☒ Specification [Total Pages 18]  
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
  - Descriptive title of the invention ☒ Specification filed in English
  - Cross References to Related Applications
  - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
  - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
  - Background of the Invention
  - Brief Summary of the Invention
  - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
  - Detailed Description
  - Claim(s)
  - Abstract of the Disclosure
4. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 6]
5. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 3]
  - a. ☒ Newly executed (original or copy)
  - b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63 (d))  
(for a continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)
  - i. ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**  
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. ☒ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

7. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
  - a. ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
  - b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
    - i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
    - ii. ☐ paper
  - c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

## ACCOMPANYING APPLICATIONS PARTS

9. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b) Statement ☐ Power of Attorney  
(when there is an assignee)
11. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
12. ☐ Information Disclosure ☐ Copies of IDS  
Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Citations
13. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
14. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)  
(Should be specifically itemized)
15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16. ☐ Request and Non Publication under 35 U.S.C. 122  
(b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
17. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP)

of prior application No: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Prior application information: Examiner \_\_\_\_\_

Group / Art Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

## 17. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

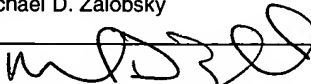
☒ Customer Number or Bar Code Label

**27572**

or ☐ Correspondence address below

(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)

|         |                                  |           |              |          |              |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| Name    | Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C. |           |              |          |              |
| Address | P.O. Box 828                     |           |              |          |              |
| City    | Bloomfield Hills                 | State     | MI           | Zip Code | 48303        |
| Country | United States of America         | Telephone | 248-641-1600 | Fax      | 248-641-0270 |

|                   |   |                                   |                   |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Michael D. Zalobsky   | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 45,512            |
| Signature         |  | Date                              | February 10, 2004 |

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# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ ) 394

## Complete if Known

Application Number N/A  
Filing Date N/A  
First Named Inventor David M. Allen  
Examiner Name N/A  
Art Unit N/A  
Attorney Docket No. 2646-000003

## METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money ☐ Other ☐ None  
Order

☐ Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number 08-0750

Deposit Account Name Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☒ Credit any overpayments  
☒ Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application  
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

## FEE CALCULATION

### 1. BASIC FILING FEE

| Large Entity |          | Small Entity |          | Fee Description        | Fee Paid  |
|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Fee Code     | Fee (\$) | Fee Code     | Fee (\$) |                        |           |
| 1001         | 770      | 2001         | 385      | Utility filing fee     | 385       |
| 1002         | 340      | 2002         | 170      | Design filing fee      |           |
| 1003         | 530      | 2003         | 265      | Plant filing fee       |           |
| 1004         | 770      | 2004         | 385      | Reissue filing fee     |           |
| 1005         | 160      | 2005         | 80       | Provisional filing fee |           |
| SUBTOTAL (1) |          |              |          |                        | (\$ ) 385 |

### 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims 21 -20 \*\* = 1 X 9 = 9  
Independent Claims 3 -3 \*\* = 0 X = 0  
Multiple Dependent X = 0

| Large Entity |          | Small Entity |          | Fee Description  |
|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|--|
| Fee Code     | Fee (\$) | Fee Code     | Fee (\$) |  |
| 1202         | 18       | 2202         | 9        | Claims in excess of 20                                     |
| 1201         | 86       | 2201         | 43       | Independent claims in excess of 3                          |
| 1203         | 290      | 2203         | 145      | Multiple dependent claim, if not paid                      |
| 1204         | 86       | 2204         | 43       | ** Reissue independent claims over original patent         |
| 1205         | 18       | 2205         | 9        | ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent |

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ ) 9

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

## FEE CALCULATION (continued)

### 3. ADDITIONAL FEES

| Large Entity |          | Small Entity |          | Fee Description  | Fee Paid |
|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|--|----------|
| Fee Code     | Fee (\$) | Fee Code     | Fee (\$) |  |          |
| 1051         | 130      | 2051         | 65       | Surcharge - late filing fee or oath  |          |
| 1052         | 50       | 2052         | 25       | Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.                    |          |
| 1053         | 130      | 1053         | 130      | Non-English specification  |          |
| 1812         | 2,520    | 1812         | 2,520    | For filing a request for reexamination                                     |          |
| 1804         | 920*     | 1804         | 920*     | Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action                     |          |
| 1805         | 1,840*   | 1805         | 1,840*   | Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action                        |          |
| 1251         | 110      | 2251         | 55       | Extension for reply within first month                                     |          |
| 1252         | 420      | 2252         | 210      | Extension for reply within second month                                    |          |
| 1253         | 950      | 2253         | 475      | Extension for reply within third month                                     |          |
| 1254         | 1,480    | 2254         | 740      | Extension for reply within fourth month                                    |          |
| 1255         | 2,010    | 2255         | 1,005    | Extension for reply within fifth month                                     |          |
| 1401         | 330      | 2401         | 165      | Notice of Appeal   |          |
| 1402         | 330      | 2402         | 165      | Filing a brief in support of an appeal                                     |          |
| 1403         | 290      | 2403         | 145      | Request for oral hearing   |          |
| 1451         | 1,510    | 1451         | 1,510    | Petition to institute a public use proceeding                              |          |
| 1452         | 110      | 2452         | 55       | Petition to revive - unavoidable   |          |
| 1453         | 1,330    | 2453         | 665      | Petition to revive - unintentional   |          |
| 1501         | 1,330    | 2501         | 665      | Utility issue fee (or reissue)   |          |
| 1502         | 480      | 2502         | 240      | Design issue fee   |          |
| 1503         | 640      | 2503         | 320      | Plant issue fee  |          |
| 1460         | 130      | 1460         | 130      | Petitions to the Commissioner  |          |
| 1807         | 50       | 1807         | 50       | Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)                                       |          |
| 1806         | 180      | 1806         | 180      | Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt                                  |          |
| 8021         | 40       | 8021         | 40       | Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) |          |
| 1809         | 770      | 2809         | 385      | Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))              |          |
| 1810         | 770      | 2810         | 385      | For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))           |          |
| 1801         | 770      | 2801         | 385      | Request for Continued Examination (RCE)                                    |          |
| 1802         | 900      | 1802         | 900      | Request for expedited examination of a design application                  |          |


Other fee (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ ) 0

## SUBMITTED BY

## Complete (if applicable)

|                   |   |                                  |        |           |                   |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Michael D. Zalobsky   | Registration No. Attorney/Agent) | 45,512 | Telephone | 248-641-1600      |
| Signature         |  |                                  |        | Date      | February 10, 2004 |

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing this form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.